



ST. JOHNS-BURY, VT., FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1887.

Union State Convention.

A Union Republican State Convention will be held at St. Johnsbury, on THURSDAY, THE THIRTIETH DAY OF MAY, 1887, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of nominating candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Treasurer, to be supported at the Annual State Election in September next.

The delegates to be elected from each town, and an additional delegate for every one hundred and fifty votes cast for Paul Fanning, at the last election.

It is requested that those whose subscriptions to the Caledonian have not been paid, will send them in, so that they may not be impeded in the convention.

Delegates to the convention should provide themselves with credentials, signed by the secretary of their respective primary meetings.

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It makes all the difference in the world with some people whose ox it is that is gored! We have seen it stated by several Canada papers within a few weeks that the Passumpsic Railroad Co. have offered to give \$150,000 in gold for the completion of the Massawippi Railroad, provided an equal amount can be raised in the townships. Now we wish to submit to the legal gentlemen who oppose the Montpelier and St. Johnsbury railroad, if this isn't "unconstitutional!" What right have the directors of the Passumpsic road to give to a corporation on foreign soil \$150,000? Doesn't this money belong to the stockholders? We infer, however, the offer is made in good faith, as meetings are already being held in the townships, and they are loaning the credit of the towns to the road project at St. Johnsbury and Danville have done to the new road. Now surely this is "unconstitutional!"

We say it makes a difference whether it is St. Johnsbury's ox or Lyndon's ball that is gored! for we are credibly informed that Lyndon, and the towns north-east, hope to get an act by the next legislature enabling them to build a railroad to Island Pond, by loaning the credit of towns—an act that is now so "unconstitutional." We wish the Passumpsic railroad speedily and successful connection north; and we don't care how soon a railroad is built to Island Pond. The more railroads we have, and the more our State is developed, the better for all who live in it. And this is why we advocate a railroad from Montpelier to Portland, through Caledonia County.

RODGE.—We have received a proposition from P. H. Drake & Co., of New York, to advertise their letters (a name given to some poor whiskey put up by them), and instead of two or three stamps on the envelope, as the weight of the letter would require, it is "ranked" by Demas Barnes, M. C. "To what base uses!" etc.

The directors of the Montpelier and St. Johnsbury railroad have a meeting at the St. Johnsbury House to-day—Thursday—at which important business will come up. The prospects of the new railroad enterprise never looked so promising as to-day.

License vs. Prohibition.

The report of the Joint Special Committee, appointed by the Legislature of Massachusetts to examine the facts as regards this question of prohibitory law or a license system, has been made public. There is nothing peculiarly wonderful in this document were it not for various opinions there expressed, and the sad departure from the rules of logic. But, upon the whole, we may say, it is no more than what we should expect where wealth and rank have both lent their influence to support the tottering foundation of a rotten cause. Eight high-minded, unbiased gentlemen, constituting a majority of this Committee, have discovered a startling fact, and, in their report, made it manifest to the rest of the world, "That it is the right of every citizen to determine for himself what he will eat and drink."

We beg leave to differ with them on this point. Every community has rights to protect; and if these rights are infringed by reason of intemperance, then who will say that community are bound to endure and tolerate these evils? Laws are instituted "to prevent and redress crimes against individuals," and laws may properly be made to restrain the sale and use of certain articles as well as to restrain the various crimes of the age. The learned eight do not deny the fact that legislation, as regards the traffic in alcoholic liquors, is constitutional and right; but that alcohol is food or its equivalent, and we cannot, entirely dispense with it. Weary pedestrians, staid travellers, and nervous dyspeptics must not be unconsciously turned away by snoring landlords. Nor must the poor sick man be met with a decided no at the drug-store, where he has brought the physician's prescription.

License, with the magnanimous eight, is an imperative necessity—a real "root hog or die." Without it, the fabric of the Old Bay State would reel and topple like the wind-stricken tree. But more than this; prohibition, we are told, is a stupendous failure. Drinking alcoholic liquors has been universal in all countries and ages; and a law prohibiting it, is an arbitrary and unreasonable interference with the rights of man. It is a precious boon to do just as one pleases—no matter about the consequences. If their logic be true, then any one who thinks our pliz too plain to be seen in the streets, may legally and magnanimously assist us in making a hurried exit from this mundane sphere.

Prohibition, they tell us too, is unsound in theory, and cannot be carried out. They want to suppress the sale of liquor, but think the license system is the true one to accomplish this end. Prohibition will increase the number of drinkshops; license will decrease them. Prohibition will swell the number of retail-dealers, and, therefore, materially enlarge the traffic. To us honest Vermonters, this argument has no semblance of power. Who has taken the most pains to change the laws of the Old Bay State, to introduce the license system? It is the big-bellied, red-nosed, wholesale liquor vendors, who are gravely said to represent a capital of forty millions of dollars, and who were so fortunate as to secure the aid of Ex-Gov. Andrew to stand at the gap, and do the biggest part of the dirty work. But times are changing. Old things are giving way to new.

and it would be nothing strange in the hereafter if these learned eight, and the Ex-Governor, too, were heartily sorry of the course they pursued in relation to this grave and important measure.

Booth's Diary.

The president has authorized the giving of a copy of the famous "diary" of John Wilkes Booth to the press and the public, and Secretary Stanton has accordingly handed it over, with a note showing how it came into his possession, and declaring that the mutilation, talked about by Gen. Butler, was made before he saw it. Judge Advocate General Field also certifies to the entirety of the diary, as first found on Booth's person by Col. Conger, and gives the opinion that, as the diary purports to be one for 1864, the cut out leaves probably contained entries for that year and were thus thrown by Booth himself. The following is a copy of the contents of the diary complete:

"I am," April 13th, 11th. Friday the 13th. Until to-day nothing was ever thought of sacrificing to our country's wrongs. For six months we had worked to capture, but our cause being almost lost, something decisive and great must be done. But this failure was owing to others who do not strike for their country with a heart. I struck boldly and not as the papers say. I walked with a firm step through a thousand of his friends and was stopped, but pushed on. A soldier was at his side. I shouted "So say" before I fired. In jumping I broke my leg. I passed all his pickets, and rode 60 miles that night with the bone of my leg tearing the flesh at every jump. I can never repeat it, though we tried to kill. Our country owed me the life to him, and God surely made me the instrument of his punishment. The country is not what I have loved. I care not what becomes of me. I have no desire to outlive my country. This night, "before the deed," I wrote a long article and left it for one of the editors of the National Intelligencer, in which I fully set forth our reasons for our proceedings. He or the government.

Friday 21st.—After being limited like a dog through swamps, woods, and last night being chased by gendarmes till I was forced to return wet, cold, and starved, with every man's hand against me, I am here in despair, and why? For doing what Brutus was honored for, what man would tell a hero, and yet I, for striking down a greater tyrant than they ever knew, am looked upon as a common cut-throat. My action was pure and noble, either of them. One hoped to be great, the other had not only his country's, but his own wrongs to avenge. I hoped for no gain. I knew no private wrong. I struck for my country, and that alone—a country that groined beneath this tyrant and prayed for his end, and yet now behold the cold hand they extend to me. God cannot pardon me if I have done wrong. I cannot see my wrong, except in serving a desecrated people. The little, very little I left behind to clear my name, the government will not allow to be printed. So ends all. For my country I have given up all that makes life sweet and holy, brought misery on my family, and am sure there is no pardon in the heaven for me, since man condemns me so. I have only heard of what has been done, except what I did myself, and it fills me with horror. God, try and forgive me, and bless my mother. To-night I will once more try the river, with the intent to cross, though I have a greater desire and almost a mind to return to Washington, and in a measure, clear my name, which I feel I can do. I do not repent the blow I struck. I have before me God, but not to man. I think I have done well, though I am abandoned, with the curse of Cain upon me, when, if the world knew my heart, that which I did would have made me great, though I did not desire greatness. To-night I try to escape those bloodhounds once more. Who, who can read his fate? God's will be done. I have too great a soul to be like a criminal. Oh, my! He, may He spare me that, and let me die bravely. I bless the entire world. Have never hated or wronged any one. This last was not a wrong unless God does it so, and it is with him to damn or bless me. And for this brave boy with me who often prays. Yes, before and since, with a true and sincere heart. Was it crime in him? If so, why can he pray the same? I do not wish to shed a drop of blood, but I must fight the course. "I shall let him live."

Upon a piece of paper in the diary, and supposed to have been torn from it, is written the following:—

"My Dear (piece torn out). Forgive me, but I have some little pride. I cannot blame you for want of hospitality. You know your own affairs. I was sick, tired with a broken limb and in need of medical aid, and I could not have turned a dog from my door in such a plight. However, you were kind enough to give us something to eat, for which I not only thank you, but on account of the rebuke and manner in which you treated me, I am not sure that I do not regret it. It is not the substance but the way in which kindness is extended that makes one happy in the acceptance thereof. The sauce to meat is ceremony. Meeting were base without it. To be kind enough to accept the enclosed few dollars, although hard to spare for what we have received. Most respectfully, your obedient servant."

AN AMERICAN STOVE AT THE PARIS EXPOSITION.—The "Montreux" has the following reference to a novel and useful stove now at the Paris Exposition, manufactured by Messrs. Pratt & Wentworth of this city, which attracted much attention while on exhibition here:

Messrs. Pratt & Wentworth of Boston U. S. have on exhibition at the palace in the Champs de Mars a cooking stove called the Peewee, which is a piece of remarkable workmanship. The advantages which this stove possesses will make it much sought for by families. The Peewee is constructed especially for economizing fuel. It burns either wood or coal; and by a new and ingenious combination, a current of air continually passes through the oven, giving an equal heat to all its parts. The oven is large, and meats can be roasted as well as cooked in a brick oven. It is one of the best inventions which can be used in families, restaurants or small hotels.

A house in the suburbs of Springfield, Mass., which formerly bore a questionable character, has recently been purchased and occupied by a worthy dealer; and a few days ago, a young man who wasn't aware of the change in proprietorship, rapped quietly at the back door. The deacon, with whom he was acquainted, answered the rap in person, and the fellow was not a little taken aback at meeting him there. He finally stammered out, "Is this the way to the poor-house?" "Yes," replied the deacon with emphasis, "you're on the direct road!"

Address letters and contributions to Governor Marcus L. Ward, Chairman and Treasurer, Newark, N. J.

MARCEL A. PERVANCE, PA.

WILLIAM CLARK, MASS.

JOHN B. CLARK, N. H.

HORACE GREELEY, N. Y.

H. H. STARKWEATHER, CT.

N. B. SMITHES, DEL.

N. W. HOFFMAN, MD.

Executive Committee of the National Union Committee.

New York, May 16, 1867.

Chicago Mob at Mobile.

Judge Kelly, member of congress from Pennsylvania, is on a lecturing tour through the south. The following dispatch from the 14th from Mobile, Ala., shows what treatment he received from the "chivalry" there:

A murderous and bloody affair occurred this evening. A desperate attack was made upon Judge Kelly, a body of gentlemen who surrounded him on the steps of the old court house during the meeting held this evening. The judge had been speaking about a quarter of an hour, in a frank and temperate manner, when there appeared a disposition to create a disturbance on the outskirts of the crowd, cries being given to put him down. Mr. Kelly replied, I tell you, you can't put me down, the 15th infantry are at my back, and if they can't keep them in Mobile, the U. S. army can. A tumult suddenly broke out at this point, by the sudden rush toward the platform, and a general scattering of the crowd. This was the signal for the melee to commence. The chief of police attempted to arrest the ringleader, and drew a pistol on him. A cry of fire was then raised, and instantly a perfect fusillade of pistols was opened upon the crowd occupying the platform. A colored man standing by my side, fell shot, instantly another person was shot to my left. Some friends of Kelly dragged him out of range of the fire, and finally succeeded in getting him away unharmed. The firing continued several minutes directed toward the platform, the crowd flying in all directions.

Treason Not Punished.

Jefferson Davis was brought before a civil court on Monday. Mr. Greeley's extraordinary assertion was gratified by the opportunity of signing the bail bond of the rebel leader; and now, we suppose, the beginning of the end is in plain sight. The bail will never surrender his prisoner, and will never pay their bond; by some expedient or other the business will be suffered to go away; the people of Richmond will be gently let down from their excitement; and by some devious process the case will be dismissed, and the rebel leader will be freed under circumstances which, for dramatic effect, which he so much conceals, are rather better for his purpose than an acquittal.

All this business to mind the often quoted saying, generally credited to the late Mr. Douglas, that this government would never be strong until it could hang somebody for treason. It is a fact that we are about to close up the account with the most gigantic treason in history, without so much as putting one man on trial for that offense. Certain persons have been executed for a murder, with which one or two of them are not proved to have had anything to do, and one miserable tool in the Andersonville atrocity has met his deserts. But the great crime which lay behind these has hardly been treated as a justifiable offense, and will not, of course, be laid to the charge of any inferior criminal, when the leader is once set at large. There is plausible ground for arguing that the law of treason is now obsolete in this country, and still more the extreme penalty which Mr. Douglas thought so necessary for public example and security.

A REMARKABLE MAN.—Henry F. Tilday, Esq. of Pittsford, has been a cripple from birth, never having had the use of either of his legs or right arm, and partially blind, presents a rare instance of what can be accomplished by a clever head, a firm determination of purpose, and an industrious disposition, combined with strict integrity, over any disability which nature may inflict upon the human family. It is out of extra-curricular, looking over for every "deathly" bush, and doing such light work as he was able to do, until he accumulated the sum of \$10,000, which he invested in real estate, and with which he has since made a fortune. His business has increased from year to year until the present time, and he is now considered one of the most successful and extensive wholesale dealers in all kinds of country produce in Rutland county. It was him of whom the Herald spoke a short time since as having sent \$50,000 dozen eggs to market during the past year. Mr. Tilday is well informed upon the general topics of the day, is a genial companion, and probably gives as much for charitable purposes, according to his means, as any other man in Vermont, and his loss as a citizen would be much regretted in the town of Pittsford.—Rutland Herald.

A SAV HISTORY.—In a recent outward steamer, from New York, there was an old, paralytic man, in whose lost and struggling intelligence might be discerned reminiscences of long command. It was commander Hartstein, who was an officer of the United States navy for thirty-three years. When the war began, his instincts, though a South Carolinian, were all for the government; but his wealthy wife influenced him first to passiveness, then to rebellion. He gave up his commission, which was his history, and like a lost eye wandered to and fro in Charleston, till of dark premonitions of the success of the great government he had betrayed. When the tide was opened upon Sumter, he strolled in the same alacrity way to Fort Moultrie, and looked at the gunners driving iron into the faithful old castle. There was no enthusiasm in his regard. Next morning when the flag of Sumter fell, a stroke of paralysis fell upon him. God spared him the work of a traitor, if not his detestation. They carried his wrecked body to a blockade runner, and he lay stumped and remonstrated in Paris three years, filled with bitter upbraidings against his counselors. They fed him with a spoon like a baby. He has returned to find his head and shoulders laid waste, and wearily these two with their daughter, were again returning to Europe to spend the rest of life in almost indigent exile.

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James Piner, of Philadelphia, Pa., a young man twenty-two years old, cut the throat of his cousin, Miss Holcroft, and then cut his own.

They both resided in the house of John Schaffer, a car driver. Piner is an inoffensive young man, and had always been on the best terms with Miss Holcroft. Both parties were alive at last accounts.

A Little Rock (Ark.) correspondent.

of the New York Herald, writing May 10, affirms that there is no safety for Union men in that State, and cites the following catalogue of outrages in proof:

"Only a few days ago, two men were hung in Chicot county for their Union sentiments. They were taken from the field in which they were peacefully at work, and after five minutes being allowed them to prepare for death, hung from the limb of a tree and left there. The rebel desperadoes, who committed the deed, seeing that they had been discovered by an old man and a boy, committed another double murder by hanging them also. The four bodies remained hanging five days before any person dared meddle with them. The Grand Jury, recently in session in this city, had this case under investigation, but failed to discover the guilty parties. Two soldiers, going from here to Arkadelphia in an army ambulance, were murdered on the road, and their bodies, after several days, found in the woods. In Dallas county, an old woman had her breasts cut off, because she would not tell where her husband, who was charged with being a Union man, was, and, from the effects of her injuries, died. A grandchild, a boy eight years old, because he refused to tell, had all his fingers and thumbs chopped off with an axe. In this same county and Pope county, several have had their feet burned off; and so frequently has it been done that the gang—it is said to be the members of a certain gang who do it—are called 'foot burners.' In Craighead county, a man who had been in the Federal service came and settled there. He was quiet and well behaved, but his being a Yankee, was an act of felony in the eyes of his neighbors, and so, notwithstanding his assertion that he would leave the country, if they would spare his life, he was taken out into the woods and hung. In addition to this, two men have recently been killed in Clark county, two in Washington county, and one in Prairie county, all because they were Union men. I am told of a man, living in the same county, who joined the Federal service during the war, and on coming back to rejoin his family, found his life threatened; and, to save it, had to keep himself concealed in the woods. A Union man, telling me this circumstance, says he and other Union men knew his place of concealment, and managed both to furnish him with provisions, and stand sentries to give alarm if occasion should require, the supposition being that he has left the country. For agents of the Freedmen's Bureau to set at, is no uncommon occurrence. I have been told of two happenings recently; the subjects of these murderous onslaughts being Lieut. Barton, at Pine Bluff, and Lieut. Taylor, at Hanley. In an official order, called attention to a gang of desperadoes in Woodruff county, who, according to all accounts, have exercised a capacity for any crime to be found in the Newgate calendar. The band is made up of men belonging to various guerrilla companies during the war, and they are still prosecuting the same species of warfare on their own hook, burning the houses of Union men, stealing their stock, and where one is known to have money, giving him the choice of handing it over or be shot or hung."

The Maine Law in Maine.—Last week, as we learn from the Lewiston (Me.) Journal, D. P. Withee of that place was fined for selling intoxicating liquors. His plea was that he kept a respectable place, and only sold cider and native wines, but Judge Walton, who tried the case, said that saloons which retained wine, cider, and ale were the nurseries of intemperance, and the more "respectable" they are, the more dangerous they become, inasmuch as their very respectability and gilded appearance offer a greater temptation to the young. Saloons which sell the lighter intoxicating drinks by the glass (even if they sell nothing stronger) are patronized by young men who would not think of going to a foul rum-shop. Judge Walton further said that the law and experience pronounced ale, the juice of the grape, current, apple, &c., after it ferments, alcoholic mixtures, and among the intoxicating liquors whose sale is prohibited.

THE BOAT RACING ACCIDENT IN ENGLAND.—The accident which took place on the river Tyne, at Newcastle, England, on occasion of the national champion boat race between Kelly, the champion of the Thames, and Chambers, the champion of the Tyne and the Clyde, was of the most calamitous character. The landing stage on the Quayside at Newcastle is reached from the shore by means of two gangways—one being used for goods traffic, and the other for passengers. The latter gave way under the enormous weight of the crowd, and one hundred persons were precipitated into the river. Great feats of bravery were performed by several persons, and thirty of the poor creatures were rescued. It was, however, feared that not fewer than fifty were sucked in under the barges, or carried away by the tide. A few of the bodies were recovered, but some days would elapse before the full extent of the catastrophe could possibly be ascertained.

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Turkish Cruelty to the Cretans.

The London Daily News has a correspondent in Crete, who writes from a romantic spot on the slope of Mount Ida. His surroundings are, however, the reverse of romantic. The whole mountain, he writes, is covered with the dead bodies of women and children who have sought refuge from the ravages of civil war, only to perish from exposure and starvation. He goes on to say that it would be hard to exaggerate the cruelties of the Turks. They were guilty of acts which it would be an outrage upon decency to mention. As the Great Powers decline to interfere for the protection of the Christian population, they have only to look forward to a continued struggle, marked by the worst atrocities of barbarian warfare.

DEATH BY HIS OWN HAND.—On the 14th of May Hon. Elijah Hise was elected to Congress from one of the districts of Kentucky, by an overwhelming majority, and on the 8th committed suicide with a pistol. He left a note, saying, that in the present condition of the country, to be out of existence was preferable to living. His age is not stated, but his name appeared in the public papers of that state so long ago as Henry Clay was before its people for their suffrages